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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Military Information from Bad Freienwalde

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 15 January to 18 February 1953

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 10 March 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

1. On 18 February 1953, the Panzer Kaserne on Berliner Chaussee, Bad Freienwalde, was occupied by about 2,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulettes. From 24 January to 5 February, 12 to 15 soldiers drilled in the barracks area on several days and about 20 to 30 soldiers were daily seen at the Weinberg training area. They practiced aiming, hand grenade throwing, entrenching work and prepared machine guns emplacements or engaged in field wire laying. Other troops daily received field training at the Rathsdorf training area or in the immediate vicinity of the installation. On 18 February, eight trucks each towing an artillery piece were seen in the town area, coming from the direction of the installation and proceeding toward Eberswalde.

Comment. No change in the occupation of the Panzer Kaserne is discernible. However, the occupation strength is underestimated by about 100 percent. As this source reported the same strength also in previous reports, it cannot be determined whether, on 18 February, units were absent from the installation for exercises. The guns observed on the same day possibly went to the vicinity of the installation for field training.

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